



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

5. — *The Romance of Natural History*. By P. H. GOSSE, F. R. S.
Boston: Gould and Lincoln. 1861. 12mo.

GOSSE's name is a sufficient guaranty of the scientific merits of what he calls "an attempt to present natural history in this æsthetic fashion." He has arranged the latest and most curious discoveries in every department of Animate Nature under such extraordinary headings as Times and Seasons; Harmonies; Discrepancies; Multum è Parvo; The Vast; The Minute; The Memorable; The Recluse; The Wild; The Terrible; The Unknown; and The Great Unknown. This last chapter is an elaborate discussion of the Sea-Serpent question. Gosse inclines to the Enaliosaurian hypothesis. He gives a plate, showing that an Enaliosaur would present, when swimming at the surface of the ocean, where the head and long serpentine neck would be raised above the water, and the slender, lizard-like body, with its turtle's paddles, wholly submerged, exactly the appearance seen by the observers of the so-called Sea-Serpent.

-
6. — *Ten Weeks in Japan*. By GEORGE SMITH, D. D., Bishop of Victoria (Hongkong). London. 1861. 8vo.

THE missionary Bishop seems to have made excellent use of the opportunities afforded by his high ecclesiastical station and his knowledge of Chinese customs, in his tour along the southern boundary of Japan from Nagasaki to Yeddo. He represents the people of Japan as but half civilized, and sadly given to intemperance and impurity. The power is at present in the hands of an aristocratical oligarchy, whose system of government consists mainly of the rigid exclusion of foreigners and a minute espionage of their own subjects. The climate as well as the insular position reminded the Bishop of his native country. The religion is Sinto-ism, a polytheism with a belief in a happy futurity, for which a life of joy in this world is thought the best preparation. Buddhism and Confucianism have however proved successful rivals of this system. The immediate prospects of Christianity do not appear encouraging. The circulation of the Bible is almost impossible, and so is any systematic preaching in Japanese. The missionaries must wait patiently for a higher civilization and a freer intercommunication. Dr. Smith attaches great importance to our diplomatic success with the Japanese, and an engraving of "the Japanese ambassadors at Washington" forms his frontispiece. He makes an earnest appeal to us in behalf of the forty-five thousand Chinese in California, who are incapacitated from giving evidence in any court of justice, and thus deprived, in great part, of the right of self-protection.